

Wives And Mothers God Desires

Intro: God created man at the beginning. God knew that it was not good for man to be alone, thus He made for man a help meet, woman. Woman was the crowning act of God's creation and the most precious. With the creation of the man and woman, God instituted the marriage relationship and the home. The home is the bedrock of every society and without strong homes the society will be destroyed. Within our society the home is being attacked from without and within. One of the reasons the home is in trouble is because we have left the fundamental roles and responsibilities God has established for each family member. Only by returning to God's established roles will we have strong families. Our lesson today will center upon the role of the wife and mother.

I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES.

A. God Gave Woman a Role That Promotes Her Femininity.

1. At the beginning God created male and female.
 - a. Gen. 1:27 ²⁷ So God created man in his *own* image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them."
 - b. There is a distinction between the two.
 - c. God expects us to recognize that difference.
2. The unisex movement of a few years ago was an attempt to destroy this distinction.
3. The transgender movement of today does destroy this distinction.
 - a. Men are to be men and women are to be women.
 - b. You cannot change from one to the other.
 - c. 1 Cor. 11:14-15 ¹⁴ Doth not even nature itself teach you, that, if a man have long hair, it is a shame unto him? ¹⁵ But if a woman have long hair, it is a glory to her: for *her* hair is given her for a covering."
4. Women, be proud of your femininity. Do not try to act or look like men.

B. Domestically Oriented.

1. Notice the emphasis of Scripture.
 - a. Tit. 2:5 ⁵ *To be* discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed."
 - b. 1 Tim. 5:14 ¹⁴ I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully."
 - c. The virtuous woman of Proverbs 31:10-31
 - (1) Her value; Pro. 31:10 ¹⁰ Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price *is* far above rubies."
 - (2) Cooks; Pro. 31:15 ¹⁵ She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens."
 - (3) Provides for family's needs; Pro. 31:16-21 ¹⁶ She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard. ¹⁷ She girdeth her loins with strength, and strengtheneth her arms. ¹⁸ She perceiveth that her merchandise *is* good: her candle goeth not out by night. ¹⁹ She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. ²⁰ She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. ²¹ She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household *are* clothed with scarlet."
 - (a) Buys a field to feed her family.
 - (b) Sells merchandise to make clothes.
 - (c) She is a business woman; but all the business related directly to her family and home.

- (4) Gardener; Pro. 31:16 ¹⁶ “She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard.”
 - (5) Seamstress; Pro. 31:19, 22, 24 ¹⁹ “She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff. ²⁰ She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy. ²¹ She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household *are* clothed with scarlet. ²² She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing *is* silk and purple. ²³ Her husband is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land. ²⁴ She maketh fine linen, and selleth *it*; and delivereth girdles unto the merchant.”
 - (6) Shopper, buying food for her family; Pro. 31:14 ¹⁴ “She is like the merchants’ ships; she bringeth her food from afar.”
 - (7) Bears the burdens of others; Pro. 31:25 ²⁵ “Strength and honour *are* her clothing; and she shall rejoice in time to come.”
 - (8) Counsels others in the right way because of the wisdom she possesses; Pro. 31:26 ²⁶ “She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue *is* the law of kindness.”
 - (9) The woman who takes her work seriously, does not have the time to be idle or lazy in any way, she is a very hard worker.
 - (10) Hers is a very fulfilling and rewarding work as is evidenced by her children calling her blessed and her husband praising her; Pro. 31:28 ²⁸ “Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband *also*, and he praiseth her.”
2. The virtuous woman does not feel trapped or unfulfilled in life.
 - a. She does not feel the need to get out into the work force.
 - b. She feels pride in doing the greatest work upon this earth.
 3. We need to once again teach girls growing up to be homemakers, working in the home to keep it tidy, orderly, and beautifully decorated.
 4. Making a home is far more than simply keeping house.
 - a. She will create an atmosphere where love, peace, and joy reign supreme.
 - b. Make the home a safe haven for each member of the family.
 - c. Also make the home a place where guests are welcomed, and family can bring friends without being ashamed of the atmosphere which prevails.

C. Submissive.

1. By right of creation.
 - a. Woman was made for the man; Gen. 2:18 ¹⁸ “And the LORD God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.”
 - b. She came out of him; 1 Cor. 11:8-9 ⁸ “For the man is not of the woman; but the woman of the man. ⁹ Neither was the man created for the woman; but the woman for the man.”
 - c. 1 Cor. 11:3 ³ “But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman *is* the man; and the head of Christ *is* God.”
2. The origin of sin.
 - a. Satan tempted Eve and she succumbed.
 - (1) Gen. 3:1-6
 - (2) Gen. 3:16 ¹⁶ “Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire *shall be* to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.”
 - b. 1 Tim. 2:11-14 ¹¹ “Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. ¹² But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. ¹³ For Adam was first formed, then Eve. ¹⁴ And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression.”

3. These principles remain in the home.
 - a. Eph. 5:22, 24 ²² Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. ²⁴ Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in every thing.”
 - b. Col. 3:18 ¹⁸ Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.”
 - c. 1 Pet. 3:1, 5-6 ¹ Likewise, ye wives, *be* in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives;... ⁵ For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: ⁶ Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.”
4. This does not mean that she is inferior, in many respects she is superior, it is simply the role God gave women.

II. WOMAN’S ROLE RELATING TO THE HOME.

A. She Is A Helper.

1. Gen. 2:18 ¹⁸ And the LORD God said, *It is* not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.”
 - a. “Help meet” comes from the Hebrew word *ezer* and means “help, succour, or one who helps.”
 - b. A woman is a sharer with man: in his joy, sorrow, trials, successes, etc.
 - c. They become one.
2. The greatest help she can be is to help her family get to heaven.
 - a. Cf. Zacharias and Elisabeth; Luke 1:6 ⁶ And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless.”
 - b. When a spouse is not a Christian.
 - (1) 1 Cor. 7:16 ¹⁶ For what knowest thou, O wife, whether thou shalt save *thy* husband? or how knowest thou, O man, whether thou shalt save *thy* wife?”
 - (2) 1 Pet. 3:1-2 ¹ Likewise, ye wives, *be* in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; ² While they behold your chaste conversation *coupled* with fear.”

B. She Is To Be Industrious And Frugal.

1. 1 Tim. 5:8 ⁸ But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.”
 - a. A man who fails to provide is worse than an infidel.
 - b. What about the woman who squanders what the man makes?
2. Notice the virtuous woman.
 - a. Pro. 31:13-16 ¹³ She seeketh wool, and flax, and worketh willingly with her hands. ¹⁴ She is like the merchants’ ships; she bringeth her food from afar. ¹⁵ She riseth also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens. ¹⁶ She considereth a field, and buyeth it: with the fruit of her hands she planteth a vineyard”
 - b. Pro. 31:19 ¹⁹ She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff”
 - c. Pro. 31:22 ²² She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing *is* silk and purple.”
 - d. Pro. 31:27 ²⁷ She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness.”
3. Do not overextend yourself money-wise.
 - a. Learn to be content; Phi. 4:11-12 ¹¹ Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, *therewith* to be content. ¹² I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.”
 - b. Make a budget and learn to live within it.

III. WOMAN'S ROLE AS A WIFE.

A. Honor And Respect Her Husband.

1. The Scriptures so teach.
 - a. Eph. 5:33 ⁴³ Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife *see* that she reverence *her* husband.”
 - b. 1 Pet. 3:2 ² While they behold your chaste conversation *coupled* with fear.”
 - (1) *Fear* refers to “reverence and respect.”
 - (2) The wife will live a pure life out of respect for her husband.
 - (3) Sarah is an example; 1 Pet. 3:6 ⁶ Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.”
 - c. An American sociologist observed, “The modern husband has lost status heavily. Once he was an August figure. Today he is a sap and a dope.”
 - d. Women need love; men need respect.
2. Ways women show this respect.
 - a. Taking his name; Gen. 5:2 ² Male and female created he them; and blessed them, and called their name Adam, in the day when they were created.”
 - b. Being submissive to him; Eph. 5:22-24 ²² Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. ²⁴ Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so *let* the wives *be* to their own husbands in every thing.”
 - c. Fulfilling her obligations in the home; Tit. 2:5 ⁵ *To be* discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.”
 - d. Avoid criticizing him, and not allowing others to criticize him.
 - e. Not competing with dominate or overshadow him.
 - (1) Men build their image by mirroring the image their wives have of them.
 - (2) Thus, wives build up your husbands.
 - f. Not henpecking him, even when he needs it.

B. Love Her Husband.

1. Older women are to teach the younger women this; Tit. 2:4 ⁴ That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,”
2. Both husband and wife should practice 1 Pet. 4:8 ⁸ And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.”
3. Learn the characteristics of love given by Paul; 1 Cor. 13:4-8a ⁴ Charity suffereth long, *and* is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, ⁵ Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; ⁶ Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; ⁷ Beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. ⁸ Charity never faileth:”

C. Share Life Together.

1. Scriptures affirm such:
 - a. 1 Pet. 3:7 ⁷ Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with *them* according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.”
 - b. Mal. 2:14 ¹⁴ Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet *is* she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.”
 - (1) We made a covenant with our mate, our marriage vows.
 - (2) Within those vows there is the obligation to be a companion, to share life together.

- (3) This is involved in leaving and cleaving; Mat. 19:5 “⁵ And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?”
2. There is not a mine and yours. We share money, success, ambitions, sorrows, leisure time, etc., with one another.

D. Maintain Communication.

1. Communication is more than just talking to each other, it is a sharing of things in common: thoughts, plans, feelings, intents, etc.
2. Notice four areas of communication.
 - a. The soul—spiritually.
 - (1) Our love for God and Christ.
 - (2) Our working together for the furtherance of the kingdom of Christ.
 - (3) Helping our mate go to heaven.
 - b. The mind—intellectually.
 - (1) Revealing your innermost self to your mate.
 - (2) Revealing your thoughts, emotions and feelings on all subjects.
 - c. The body—physically (sexual relations)
 - d. The hearts—emotions.
 - (1) Giving hugs.
 - (2) Expressing “I love you” or “I need you,” or other expressions of our love: saying “I’m sorry” when we make mistakes, etc.

E. Be Faithful To Her Husband.

1. The marriage vows.
 - a. A sacred trust that must not be broken.
 - b. You vowed to take him “to be your lawful wedded husband, to live with him after the ordinances of God, to love, honor, obey and cherish him in sickness and in health, in prosperity and adversity and keep yourself only to him as long as you both shall live.”
 - c. Nothing gives either party the right to do anything than maintain their purity within the marriage.
2. Fidelity is virtuous.
 - a. Pro. 12:4 “⁴ A virtuous woman *is* a crown to her husband: but she that maketh ashamed *is* as rottenness in his bones.”
 - b. Pro. 31:10 “¹⁰ Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price *is* far above rubies.”
 - c. As opposed to:
 - (1) Potiphar’s wife; Gen. 39.
 - (2) Gomer’s wife; Hos. 1-3.
3. Marital infidelity brings problems.
 - a. Only reason God gives for divorce with remarriage following.
 - (1) Mat. 5:32 “³² But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery.”
 - (2) Mat. 19:9 “⁹ And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except *it be* for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery.”
 - b. Show the person cannot be trusted.

- c. Will cause the fornicator to be lost eternally.
 - (1) Gal. 5:19-21 ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, ²⁰ Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, ²¹ Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.”
 - (2) Live by the motto: “Do nothing in your companion’s absence that you would not do in their presence.”

F. Put Her Husband First.

- 1. At marriage there is a leaving of parents and cleaving to each other.
 - a. Mat. 19:5 ⁵ And said, For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?”
 - b. That cleaving means a wife must put her husband before anything or anyone else.
- 2. Put husband first.
 - a. Do not become too busy (extra-curricular activities) that you do not have time for your husband.
 - b. Do not put parents, children, other relatives before husband.
 - c. Never allow your husband to feel second rate or second fiddle.
 - d. Put your husband before self.

G. Give Conjugal Rights.

- 1. Heb. 13:4 ⁴ Marriage *is* honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.”
- 2. 1 Cor. 7:2-5 ² Nevertheless, *to avoid* fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband. ³ Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence: and likewise also the wife unto the husband. ⁴ The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. ⁵ Defraud ye not one the other, except *it be* with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency.”
 - a. The sexual union is a benefit for the husband and wife in the marriage relationship.
 - b. It is a very tender, intimate, beautiful, and sacred means of expressing deep and abiding love, commitment and oneness.
 - c. One partner must not withhold himself from the other (as a means of punishment, or to get even with your mate, or to get something from them.)

H. Keep Herself Attractive.

- 1. Notice the Scriptures.
 - a. Pro. 31:22 ²² She maketh herself coverings of tapestry; her clothing *is* silk and purple.”
 - b. Isa. 49:18 ¹⁸ Lift up thine eyes round about, and behold: all these gather themselves together, *and* come to thee. *As* I live, saith the LORD, thou shalt surely clothe thee with them all, as with an ornament, and bind them *on thee*, as a bride *doeth*.”
 - c. Isa. 61:10 ¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh *himself* with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth *herself* with her jewels.”
 - d. Jer. 2:32 ³² Can a maid forget her ornaments, *or* a bride her attire? yet my people have forgotten me days without number.”
 - e. Eze. 16:8-14 ⁸ Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time *was* the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I swore unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine. ⁹ Then washed I thee with water; yea, I thoroughly washed away thy blood from thee, and I anointed thee with oil. ¹⁰ I clothed thee also with brodered work, and shod thee with badgers’ skin, and I girded

thee about with fine linen, and I covered thee with silk. ¹¹ I decked thee also with ornaments, and I put bracelets upon thy hands, and a chain on thy neck. ¹² And I put a jewel on thy forehead, and earrings in thine ears, and a beautiful crown upon thine head. ¹³ Thus wast thou decked with gold and silver; and thy raiment *was of* fine linen, and silk, and brodered work; thou didst eat fine flour, and honey, and oil: and thou wast exceeding beautiful, and thou didst prosper into a kingdom. ¹⁴ And thy renown went forth among the heathen for thy beauty: for it *was* perfect through my comeliness, which I had put upon thee, saith the Lord GOD.”

- f. While these are figures, they are based upon the woman taking pride in her physical attractiveness.
2. Do not forget those things that first attracted your husband to you.
3. The physical must not take precedence over the inner attractiveness.
 - a. Pro. 31:30 ^{“30} Favour *is* deceitful, and beauty *is* vain: *but* a woman *that* feareth the LORD, she shall be praised.”
 - b. 1 Pet. 3:3-4 ^{“3} Whose adorning let it not be that outward *adorning* of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; ⁴ But *let it be* the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, *even the ornament* of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.”

IV. WOMAN’S ROLE AS A MOTHER.

A. Women Are To Bear Children.

1. God created women physically and temperamentally to bear and provide for children.
 - a. Woman is man with a womb.
 - b. Psa. 128:3 ^{“3} Thy wife *shall be* as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round about thy table.”
 - c. 1 Tim. 5:14 ^{“14} I will therefore that the younger women marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully.”
 - d. 1 Tim. 2:15 ^{“15} Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.”
 - (1) Saved in the sense of women fulfilling their purpose and design by bearing children.
 - (2) It was God’s plan to fill the earth; Gen. 1:28 ^{“28} And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.”
 - e. Godly women have desired children.
 - (1) Gen. 30:1 ^{“1} And when Rachel saw that she bare Jacob no children, Rachel envied her sister; and said unto Jacob, Give me children, or else I die.”
 - (2) Hannah prays for a man child; 1 Sam. 1.
2. It is sad when women enter the marriage relationship with the intention of not having children.
3. Sadder is when women conceive a child, then have a doctor abort that precious life.

B. Women Are To Be Teachers.

1. Many recognize the importance of mothers in teaching their children.
 - a. Abraham Lincoln said, “All that I am, or can be, I owe to my angel mother.”
 - b. Henry Ward Beecher said, “The mother’s heart is the child’s schoolroom.”
 - c. Emerson expressed it this way, “Men are what their mothers make them.”
 - d. John Gray put it, “The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.”
2. God gives women this responsibility also.
 - a. Tit. 2:3-5 ^{“3} The aged women likewise, that *they be* in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; ⁴ That they may teach the young

- women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, ⁵ *To be* discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed.”
- b. Notice the example of Timothy’s mother and grandmother.
 3. Four areas of development; Luke 2:52 ^{“52} And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favour with God and man.”
 - a. Mental—proper instruction (teaching) to allow him to develop in wisdom.
 - b. Physical—proper nourishment, food, to allow Him to grow physically, in stature.
 - c. Spiritual
 - (1) Proper spiritual guidance to allow him to increase in favor with God.
 - (2) This is what Lois and Eunice provided for Timothy.
 - (a) 2 Tim. 1:5 ^{“5} When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.”
 - (b) 2 Tim. 3:14-15 ^{“14} But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned *them*; ¹⁵ And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.”
 - d. Socially
 - (1) Provide the proper friends and companions to allow him to grow socially
 - (2) 1 Cor. 15:33 ^{“33} Be not deceived: Evil companionships corrupt good morals. [ASV]”
 4. We need mothers who will stay home and teach their children.

Conclusion: The greatest need in the world today is homes that are directed by and lived according to God’s Word, and especially the wife/mother fulfilling her God given role.